

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 01304 220552Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 AID-05 /058 W
-----016845 220611Z /21

R 211010Z JUN 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6371
INFO USDOC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
W/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT 1460
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BAGHDAD 1304

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ETRN, ECRE, BENC, PBOR, IZ, TU, BR
SUBJ: MAJOR IRAQI RAILWAY PROJECT TO BE AWARDED TO BRAZILIAN FIRM

1. USINT HAS LEARNED THAT IRAQ WILL SOON AWARD A MAJOR
RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT TO CONSTRUCTORIA MENDES JUNIOR
(CMJ) OF BRAZIL. THE CONTRACT IS TO BE AWARDED IN MID-JULY
AND, ACCORDING TO THE BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR, CULMINATES
FOUR YEARS OF EFFORT TO OBTAIN THE PROJECT.

2. CMJ WILL CONSTRUCT A RAIL LINE LINKING BAGHDAD, RAMADI,
HADITHA, AND AL-QUAIM ON THE IRAQI-SYRIAN BORDER. A SPUR LINE
WILL EXTEND FROM AL-QAIM TO THE PHOSPHATE MINES AT AKASHAT
(WADI AL-AKASH) TO TRANSPORT RAW PHOSPHATE TO THE PROCESSING
PLANT BEING CONSTRUCTED BY SYBETRA OF BELGIUM AT AL-QAIM.
CONSTRUCTION OF THE 530 KILOMETER LINE IS TO BE COMPLETED
WITHIN 4 YEARS.

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3. CMJ HAS HIRED ARTHUR D. LITTLE, INC., OF CAMBRIDGE, MA,
TO STUDY THE AVAILABILITY OF LABOR FOR THIS PROJECT, WHICH
WILL EMPLOY 5000 WORKERS AT THE END OF THE FIRST YEAR AND
7000 THEREAFTER.

4. IN EARLY JUNE, THE IRAQI MINISTER OF TRANSPORT WAS

QUOTED AS SAYING THAT IRAQ IS STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF
EXTENDING THIS LINE TO JORDAN IN THE FUTURE. IN THE SAME
INTERVIEW, HE NOTED THAT IRAQ AND TURKEY ARE DISCUSSING
A RAIL LINK BETWEEN MOSUL, IN NORTHERN IRAQ, AND NUSSEIBIN,
IN EASTERN TURKEY, TO BRIDGE THE GAP IN THE ONLY RAIL ROUTE
LINKING IRAQ TO EUROPE WHICH WAS CREATED BY THE SYRIAN
BORDER CLOSURE. THE TURKISH MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS,
GUNESH ONGUT, IS NOW IN BAGHDAD. THIS PROJECT IS BEING
DISCUSSED IN ADDITION TO POSSIBLE IRAQI-TURKISH COOPERATION
IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND WATERBORNE TRANSPORT.
PECK

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: CONTRACTS, RAILROADS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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